



STATE OF WASHINGTON
DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL AND HEALTH SERVICES
HEALTH & RECOVERY SERVICES ADMINISTRATION

PO Box 45530

Olympia WA 98504-5530

February 9, 2010

Dear Tribal leader:

As you are aware, the State of Washington has been working with Washington State Tribes to receive Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) approval of the Medicaid Administrative Match (MAM) Cost Allocation Plan (CAP) for over five years. On November 12, 2009, MaryAnne Lindeblad, Division Director for Healthcare Services provided an update on the status with CMS to gain approval of the CAP. Along with her letter, a draft of the CMS options paper was attached for your review. On November 30, 2009, Tribes and the State met to discuss these options. In that meeting, it became clear that there were more questions than answers and that further discussion is needed before we can move forward. In response to the questions, CMS has agreed to meet with the Tribal MAM Workgroup to discuss each of the options.

If you have not done so already, we encourage all Tribes that are interested or currently participating in MAM to designate a staff person to represent their Tribe at these meetings. Participation in this process will ensure your Tribes' concerns and questions are heard. We anticipate meeting at least once a month. If your Tribe is not able to participate in person there will be an option to participate via conference call.

We continue to appreciate the partnership between the State and Tribes and remain hopeful that we can find a solution that is acceptable for Tribes and approvable by CMS. If your Tribe would like take part in the Tribal MAM workgroup, please forward the name and contact information of your MAM staff person to me. Enclosed is a proposed meeting schedule for the Tribal MAM Workgroup. If you would like to suggest alternative dates and times to meet, please forward them to me for consideration by the workgroup no later than February 24, 2010. Unless it is specifically noted, all meetings will include CMS, the State and Tribes.

If you have any questions on this issue or MAM in general, please contact me by phone at 360-725-1738 or by email at terryjn@dshs.wa.gov.

Sincerely,

Jessica N. Terry
Tribal MAM Program Manager
Division on Health Care Services
Department of Social and Health Services

Cc: Tribal MAM Coordinators
Tribal Clinic Directors

Meeting Announcement

Tribal Medicaid Administrative Match Workgroup

March 4, 2010

(Preparation meeting between the State and Tribes only)

March 18, 2010

April 8, 2010

May 6, 2010

HRSA- Cherry Street Plaza

626-8th Ave SE, Olympia, WA

All meetings will take place in the Apple/Peach Room from 1:00 p.m. to 2:00 p.m.

Conference by phone information

Call in number: 360-407-3780

Pin code: 542731#

For questions, contact Jessica Terry at 360-725-1738 or by email at terryjn@dshs.wa.gov.

The monthly meetings will incorporate issues as they relate to the Washington State Tribal Medicaid Administrative Match Program.

